



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
2006 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE**

**CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**(Listed In Order Of Department/Related Subject Matter)**

**Agriculture**

**Agriculture Disaster Assistance:** SUPPORT legislation that would include relief for agricultural areas affected by Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Rita, Ophelia and Wilma that include crop disaster assistance, programmatic changes for debris removal, and temporary housing assistance for displaced farmworkers.

**Farm Bill Reauthorization:** SUPPORT legislative changes to the farm bill that provides programmatic support and recognizes the needs of specialty crops grown in South Dade's subtropical climate.

**Aviation**

**Airport EDS Baggage Integration:** SUPPORT \$20 million minimum funding request and the approval of the Memorandum of Agreement and a Letter of Intent (LOI) between Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to reimburse MDAD for terminal modifications required to integrate explosive detection systems (EDS) in-line with Miami International Airport's baggage handling systems in the South and North terminals and/or obtain additional discretionary funding through other transaction agreements.

**Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Food and Drug Administration Staffing at Miami International Airport (MIA):** ADVOCATE for adequate Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration staffing levels at security checkpoints, baggage screening operations and federal inspection stations at MIA to ensure that neither processing times nor security are compromised.

**Community and Economic Development**

**Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)/ Community Services Block Grant (CSBG):** ADVOCATE maintaining and/or increasing CDBG and CSBG funding in FY07. Previously the Administration proposed reducing CSBG funds which will ultimately result in a reduction of the State of Florida's overall allocation of CSBG funds, and thus lowering the amount of dollars allocated to Miami-Dade County.

**Head Start Program Reauthorization:** SUPPORT changes in the reauthorization of the Head Start Program that will benefit children and families in Miami-Dade County that depend on the programs and services Head Start provides to needy families throughout the region.

**Environmental Infrastructure and Water Resources**

**Environmental Protection Agency Policy on Blending:** SUPPORT action to ensure that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintain its policy of allowing utilities to blend peak excess flow

with fully treated wastewater during periods of wet weather and to specifically include this policy in EPA rules.

**Miami River Dredging:** \$24.2 million funding request for the final phase of the Miami River Dredging Project to restore authorized depth and width to the navigation channel.

**Beach Erosion Control:** SUPPORT \$5.2 million funding request to conduct ongoing periodic renourishment of eroded segments of the federally authorized Miami-Dade County Shore Protection Project and provide storm damage reduction to upland properties and infrastructure.

### **Homeland Security/Public Safety**

**Interoperability Funding:** SUPPORT efforts to fund Miami-Dade County as an emergency communications pilot project to help achieve emergency communications capabilities and interoperability.

**Homeland Security National Complex:** SUPPORT efforts to secure the placement of a national Department of Homeland Security (DHS) facility in Miami-Dade County to augment the significant investment already made by the DHS in the County and to ensure mobilization and deployment resources are readily available in the event of a disaster.

### **Housing**

**Elderly Housing:** SUPPORT funding for affordable elderly housing in Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade County faces a shortfall of housing affordable to the ever growing population of seniors.

**Workforce Housing:** SUPPORT seeking funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to pursue innovative housing programs that promote the construction and development of workforce housing.

**Section 8 Vouchers and Funding for Public Housing:** SUPPORT changing the Section 8 voucher program to allow Miami-Dade County to better access and utilize critical federal dollars. SUPPORT increases in funding for Public Housing. Reductions in funding could result in approximately \$3.3 million deficit in Miami-Dade County's public housing operating budget.

### **Health, Human Services, and Community Issues**

**Ryan White AIDS Funding:** SUPPORT increased funding for the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Relief Grant Program.

**Pandemic Avian Flu Funding:** SUPPORT increased funding to Florida State Health Department agencies to deal with issues related to the stockpile of medications and threats such as a pandemic flu.

### **Hurricane Recovery and Mitigation**

**100% FEMA Reimbursement/Increased Mitigation Funding:** SUPPORT efforts to have county expenses that are FEMA reimbursable to be federally funded at 100%, as FEMA has the discretion to cover 100% of these costs.

## **Parks, Libraries and Cultural Resources**

**Ludlum Trail:** SUPPORT \$4 million funding request for the acquisition and construction of the Ludlum Trail. This trail is a proposed seven mile bicycle pedestrian trail along the FEC Railroad corridor, between SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and SW 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue from State Road 5/US1/SW Dixie Highway to NW 12<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Performing Arts Center (PAC):** SUPPORT \$900,000 funding request to acquire property adjacent to the new Performing Arts Center and to implement plans for neighborhood economic and social revitalization, which may include a Park and Ride Facility.

## **Port of Miami**

**Unfunded Security Mandates:** SUPPORT efforts to assure that the federal government funds all federal seaport security mandates without impacting traditional seaport funding sources for capacity and other critical projects.

**Miami Harbor Channel Dredging:** SUPPORT efforts to secure \$7 million in appropriations and/or reprogrammed funds within the FY 07 Energy and Water Development appropriations bill, to include outstanding needs for Phase II dredging, Planning, Engineering and Design (PED) funds for Phase III dredging, and additional dredging needs subsequently identified by the US Army Corps of Engineers. SUPPORT authorization for 50-52 ft. dredging project, in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

**Intermodal Capability:** ADVOCATE for legislation that would fund improvements of Intermodal capabilities and capacity of the Seaport to highway connectivity corridors, to include a tunnel or other viable means to ease congestion at the Port of Miami.

## **Public Works and General Government**

**Mosquito Control Plane:** Support effort to secure \$1 million for the acquisition of a fixed wing airplane for aerial spraying to control mosquitoes - aerial spraying is the only effective method for providing effective control of mosquitoes over large geographic areas.

## **Transit**

**Metrorail Orange Line Expansion - North and East-West Corridors:** SUPPORT \$20 million funding request to be used for preliminary engineering on the Miami-Dade County East-West Corridor Rapid Transit Project. SUPPORT \$20 million funding request to be used for final design on the Miami-Dade North Corridor Rapid Transit Project.

**South Florida Regional Integrated Fare Collection System:** SUPPORT \$35 million funding request to promote a tri-county integrated fare collection system under the lead of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA).

**Bus Procurement:** SUPPORT \$6 million funding request of discretionary Federal Bus and Bus-Related funds to enhance current levels of service to meet growing transportation demand, increasing bus routes and improving service frequencies.

**7<sup>TH</sup> Avenue Transit Hub:** SUPPORT \$2 million funding request to construct a transit hub at the intersection of NW 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Street which will provide access for commuters to and from the Liberty City area as well as a focal point for economic development.

# **CRITICAL APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR – 2007 (OCT. 2006-SEPT. 2007)**

(Listed in order of corresponding Congressional funding bill – all county appropriations requests are listed on pp. 24-25, critical appropriations listed on pp. 1-4)

## **AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES**

### **Agriculture Manager**

Agriculture Disaster Assistance

(amount requested through  
emergency supplemental bill)

### **Public Works**

Mosquito Control Airplane

\$1 million

## **ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT**

### **Department of Environmental Resource Management (DERM)**

Miami River Dredging

\$24.2 million

Beach Erosion Control

\$5.2 million

### **Port of Miami**

Miami Harbor Channel Dredging Project

\$7 million

## **HOMELAND SECURITY**

### **Aviation**

Airport EDS Baggage Integration (Unfunded Federal Mandate)

\$20 million

## **TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, JUDICIARY AND HUD**

### **Parks and Recreation**

Ludlum Trail

\$4 million

Performing Arts Center (PAC)

\$900,000

### **Transit**

Metrorail Orange Line Expansion - North & East/West Corridors

\$40 million (\$20m per corridor)

South Florida Regional Integrated Fare Collection System

\$35 million

Bus Procurement

\$6 million

7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Transit Hub

\$2 million

# **AGRICULTURE**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Agriculture Disaster Assistance:** SUPPORT legislation that would include relief for agricultural areas affected by Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Rita, Ophelia and Wilma that include crop disaster assistance, programmatic changes for debris removal, and temporary housing assistance for displaced farmworkers.

**Farm Bill Reauthorization:** SUPPORT legislative changes to the farm bill that provides programmatic support and recognizes the needs of specialty crops grown in South Dade's subtropical climate. Most of the current provisions included in the farm bill are geared toward grain and cattle, but with the growing nursery business, which has surpassed citrus as the number one cash crop in Florida, the County will work with the State Department of Agriculture to ensure that modern provisions recognizing the special needs of nursery, tropical fish, and tropical fruit industries are included.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Windstorm:** SUPPORT legislation that would seek to provide feasible insurance policies to crop growers, including the Avocado industry. The current pilot policy for windstorm for Florida growers has never been adequate or fair. Growers are in need of obtaining workable policies for trees and crops without being obligated to buy the old, problematic insurance currently available. A corrected policy change is needed in the South Florida hurricane prone areas, as growers have no other alternative. This policy change should also include greenhouses and shadehouses that are currently uninsurable.

**Tree Canopy:** SUPPORT federal government programs and incentives for tree planting. A 1996 study conducted by American Forests with Miami-Dade County found that the county only had a 10% tree cover, while 30% was the average in American cities. Federal funding for tree planting and reforestation would be of assistance in light of the major losses in tree canopy experienced countywide as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma's sustained winds and excessive rainfall.

**Agricultural Jobs and Farmworker Housing:** SUPPORT legislation (S.1645/H.R.3142) that provides a path for experienced nursery and other farmworkers, who have been supporting the American economy with their labor, to come forward and be identified so as to earn the right to adjust to legal resident status. SUPPORT efforts to work with the federal government to provide permanent farmworker housing in agricultural areas of Miami-Dade County. There is a shortage of farmworker housing, and in light of Hurricane Wilma, the federal government needs to look towards helping to provide critical housing that can withstand storms that are becoming increasing frequent in Florida.

**Vegetative Disaster Debris:** SUPPORT efforts to change administrative regulations that will allow FEMA to provide fiscal reimbursement for local jurisdictions for mulch and/or compost vegetative disaster debris, in addition to the normal coverage of debris removal and disposal in declared disaster areas.

# **AVIATION**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Airport EDS Baggage Integration:** SUPPORT \$20 million minimum funding request and the approval of the Memorandum of Agreement and a Letter of Intent (LOI) between Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to reimburse MDAD for terminal modifications required to integrate explosive detection systems (EDS) in-line with Miami International Airport's (MIA) baggage handling systems in the South and North terminals and/or obtain additional discretionary funding through other transaction agreements. The total amount of the requested LOI is approximately \$183.7 million: \$51.7 million for Central Terminal and \$132 million for the North and South Terminals. Congress has directed TSA to move all EDS in-line with airport baggage sorting systems but, to date; MIA has received only \$20 million from TSA in discretionary Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) funds. The MDAD needs assurances in the form of a MOA or LOI to ensure that the federal government pays its 75% share for the installation of EDS in-line with baggage systems.

**Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Food and Drug Administration Staffing at Miami International Airport (MIA):** ADVOCATE for adequate Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration staffing levels at security checkpoints, baggage screening operations and federal inspection stations at MIA to ensure that neither processing times nor security are compromised.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Opa-Locka Airport Air Traffic Control Tower:** SUPPORT funding for the replacement of Opa-Locka Air Traffic Control Tower and pursue continued funding in FAA's Facilities and Equipment (F&E) account. The current Opa-Locka Airport control tower is in an advanced stage of deterioration and it is not economically feasible to repair. This tower is critical for the continued availability of air traffic control services at Opa-Locka Airport. Opa-Locka Airport is a major economic contributor to South Florida accounting for 1,938 direct and indirect jobs and \$106 million in business revenues. OSHA has informed the FAA that no further compliance extension will be granted and will require the permanent closing of the tower on September 30, 2007.

**International to International (ITI) Passengers and Transit without Visa (TWOV) Programs:** ADVOCATE for MIA to operate on a permanent basis a pilot program which allows MIA to utilize former transit lounges for the safe and efficient processing of ITI passengers. TSA and CBP (Customs and Border Protection) have set up inspection stations in the lounges that are now being used for customs and security screening. MONITOR the Department of Homeland Security's development of a new program to replace the ITI and Transit without Visa (TWOV) programs called the Air Transit Program (ATP).

**Unfunded Security Mandates and Cost Free Space:** SUPPORT efforts to assure that the federal government funds all federal airport security mandates without impacting traditional airport funding sources for capacity and other critical projects. This includes requests by the federal government to include space for federal agencies at no cost, checkpoint modifications, airfield access control for cargo, and elevated homeland security threat levels, which have a significant impact on airport operations.

**Machine Readable Passports (MRP) and U.S. VISIT Programs:** MONITOR the implementation of these new programs closely and work with the airlines to ensure that new rules and regulations do not cause undue congestion and delay while also working to ensure that security is not compromised.

**Grants, Reimbursements and General Funding:** SUPPORT efforts to secure grants and/or pilot programs for homeland security, technology upgrades impacting overall infrastructure, alternative fuels and equipment and environmental remediation. SUPPORT full funding of the Airport Improvement Program

(AIP) and other Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) programs. These programs fund critical capital and safety investments at airports nationwide. SUPPORT FAA's Contract Tower Program and the Airport Cooperative Research Program.

**Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Legislation:** SUPPORT any reauthorization legislation that would support industry goals for program funding levels and agency reorganization, once these goals are established. The current authorization runs through FY 2007.

**Telecommunications Legislation:** OPPOSE any legislation that would undermine the safe and secure operation of wireless telecommunication services on airport property.

**Airport Department of Defense (DOD) Remediation:** SUPPORT efforts to direct the DOD to pay its fair share of the damages arising out of subsurface contamination at Miami International Airport caused by the operations of the United States Air Force and its contractors at MIA from the World War II era through the Vietnam era. The County filed an appeal to a decision rendered in October 2004 by the United States District Court in the Southern District of Florida. In the past, DOD has recognized that it is liable and responsible for at least some of the costs of responding to environmental contamination at and around MIA. The Court ruled against Miami-Dade County and county attorneys have appealed. The County's claim is in excess of \$100 million.

**Registered Traveler:** SUPPORT the efforts of Miami International Airport to become a permanent site for a Registered Traveler program. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will issue guidelines in January, 2006 on expanding the program nationwide. In the summer of 2004, TSA began operating the Registered Traveler pilot programs at airports in Minneapolis-St Paul, Los Angeles, Houston, Boston and Washington, DC. The program allows approved passengers to go through expedited security screening after they have submitted personal information and biometric data to TSA. SUPPORT efforts to include a pilot program for international arrivals using Registered Traveler technologies/protocols.

**Reclassification of Airport Bonds as Government Bonds:** SUPPORT airport industry efforts to reclassify private activity bonds used by airports as government bonds. In addition to being subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax, private activity bonds cannot be advance refunded for at least ten years following issuance, precluding the MDAD from taking advantage of lower interest rates.

**Airline Bankruptcies:** SUPPORT airport industry efforts to require bankrupt airlines to assume or reject airport lease agreements within a finite period of time. This will help ensure that the MDAD will receive Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs) owed by bankrupt carriers in a timely manner.

# **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)** – ADVOCATE preserving the Community Development Block Grant Program within the Department of Housing and Urban Development and maintaining or increasing current levels of funding. The CDBG program's primary objective is to assist in the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and to expand economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. Miami-Dade County allocates \$22 million annually to fund a wide variety of CDBG eligible programs, projects and activities that address the needs of underdeveloped and underserved areas, and which are targeted to meet the needs of very low and moderate income persons. Any funding cuts would be detrimental to Miami-Dade County and the individuals that this program was developed to assist.

**Community Services Block Grant (CSBG):** ADVOCATE for increase CSBG funding in FY07. Previously the Administration proposed reducing CSBG funds which will ultimately result in a reduction of the State of Florida's overall allocation of CSBG funds, and thus lowering the amount of dollars allocated to Miami-Dade County. Increasing funding in the reauthorization supports the Community Action Agency (CAA) in expanding services to low-income families transitioning from public assistance. ADVOCATE changes in the national formula used for funding to States whose recipients are primarily Community Action Agencies. The unemployed, working poor, and families of Reservists called to extended duty serving our country are also receiving help from Community Action Agencies to make ends meet. The poverty levels and population in Miami-Dade County has increased in recent years yet national funding formulas have not been changed in years.

**Head Start Program Reauthorization:** SUPPORT changes in the reauthorization of the Head Start Program that will benefit children and families in Miami-Dade County that depend on the programs and services Head Start provides to needy families throughout the region. These changes include ADVOCATING for the restoration of the full participation of parents in the shared decision-making process; establish provisions for additional funding for the Head Start teachers as compensation for increased educational requirements; halting of the National Reporting System for testing of young children until a valid test is developed and the elimination of legislative language advocating the re-competition of the Head Start grants and OPPOSING efforts changing the funding mechanism for Head Start/Early Head from direct funding by the Department of Health and Human Services to Block Grant funding by the state.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Head Start/Early Head Start Facilities:** SUPPORT \$7.75 million funding request to construct two new Head Start/Early Head Start facilities to house the needs of families and children. While the Community Action Agency's Head Start division has the necessary programming and service dollars, it needs additional facilities to serve the community and an increase in delivery of Head Start services for poor children from birth to age 5 and their families.

**Head Start Program:** OPPOSE legislation that allows religious organizations and churches to discriminate on the basis of religion when hiring or firing staff for positions within the federal Head Start program.

**Corporation for National Services and Older Americans Act:** SUPPORT efforts to continue funding the Corporation for National Services, enhancing the quality of life of our elders and avoiding premature institutionalization including funding for meals for the elderly, adult day care, elderly transportation and adult home care.

**Empowerment Zone Funding:** SUPPORT \$10 million funding request for all Round II Empowerment Zones. Funding will assist with economic development, job training, land acquisition, neighborhood



improvement projects and the Capital Venture Discretionary Fund that makes equity investments in business opportunities within the Empowerment Zone. SUPPORT legislation that would designate a permanent annual funding source for the Round II Empowerment Zones.

**Social Security Program:** SUPPORT preserving Social Security program. Modify Social Security to ensure current levels of benefits in the coming future beyond 2032.

**Summer Youth Employment Program:** ADVOCATE for the national reinstatement of the Summer Youth Employment Program at the previous funding levels. This program has traditionally provided communities across our nation a way to provide safe and productive alternatives to our youth during the summer when they are not in school. In the State of Florida over 7000 youth would have had the opportunity to work this past summer had this vital program been in place.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND WATER RESOURCES**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Environmental Protection Agency Policy on Blending:** SUPPORT action to ensure that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintain its policy of allowing utilities to blend peak excess flow with fully treated wastewater during periods of wet weather and to specifically include this policy in EPA rules. Without this protection, the County could be open to unfair enforcement actions at both the federal and state levels. A policy prohibiting blending would cost millions and not be a cost effective means to handle excess flow.

**Miami River Dredging:** SUPPORT \$24.2 million funding request for the final phase of the Miami River Dredging Project to restore authorized depth and width to the navigation channel.

**Beach Erosion Control:** SUPPORT \$5.2 million funding request to conduct ongoing periodic renourishment of eroded segments of the federally authorized Miami-Dade County Shore Protection Project and provide storm damage reduction to upland properties and infrastructure. President Bush's 2006 budget zeros out beach renourishment in Florida. SUPPORT statewide efforts to restore federal funding for beach renourishment.

### **OTHER ISSUES**

**Water Reuse:** SUPPORT \$20 million authorization for the development of a reuse transmission pipeline in South Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department will use such line to supplement water supply for various users in the southern part of the County, including industrial and potential agricultural users. Positive effects will include helping to conserve water in Miami-Dade County and protecting critical natural resources such as the Everglades and Biscayne Bay.

**Everglades Restoration:** SUPPORT working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District to ensure the full federal funding and complete implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

**Biscayne Bay Water Quality Assessment Model:** SUPPORT \$500,000 funding request for a series of predictive numerical models designed to assist resource managers by mimicking the hydrodynamics, water quality and ecology in Biscayne Bay in response to proposed changes in land use and freshwater distribution. This project is an essential element in the development of the integrated area-wide land use and water management plan for the south Miami-Dade County watershed required in Policy 11.G of the County's Comprehensive Development Master Plan.

**Pilot Pump Stations Protection Program:** SUPPORT \$1.75 million funding request for a pilot program to protect the pump stations during significant weather events such as hurricanes and flash floods by deploying additional portable pumps to the Water and Sewer Department Divisions (WASD). Miami-Dade County WASD operates and maintains 992 sewer pumping stations handling more than 300 million gallons a day of sewage, but only approximately 10% of these pump stations are equipped with permanent emergency standby generators that automatically turn on during a power outage. Following hurricanes Katrina and Wilma, massive power outages occurred leaving approximately 70% (Katrina) and 90% (Wilma) of our pump stations inoperable. Under a pilot program, following any major storm or hurricane, WASD crews would have portable pumps that would immediately (if the conditions permit) proceed to the assigned pump stations and begin the pump down collections in order to bypass the inoperable pump

station, when power goes down. This project would protect the drinking water of our 2.5 million county residents after major storms, and could be replicated as a national model for protecting vital water and sewer infrastructure.

**Florida Area Coastal Environment (FACE) Initiative:** SUPPORT \$6 million funding request as well as advocate for legislative and administrative action for the implementation of directives set forth by the FACE initiative. The FACE initiative is intended to comprehensively study, measure, and quantify sources of nutrients in the coastal ocean and their effects on ocean reefs. In order to completely understand the effects of nutrients on ocean reefs, sound, scientifically defensible, peer reviewed data is required. Once comprehensive analysis of the mass balance of nutrients in the coastal ocean is complete implementation of appropriate regulations to improve reef health can occur. The FACE program is readily transferable to other jurisdictions that may face similar ecosystem concerns. Because of the breadth of study required to fully understand the impact of nutrients to the coastal ocean, expertise and funding needs are beyond those available with local resources. In order to accomplish the goals of the FACE program, funding and scientific resources from the state and federal level are required.

**State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG):** SUPPORT efforts to secure federal STAG funds to assist the Water and Sewer Department (WASD) make capital improvements for the economic and environmental betterment of the region. In the past, WASD has received funding for improvements as connections to the sewer and water systems in commercial areas, and the STAG program is a viable source for future funding.

**Water/Waste Water Infrastructure Financing:** SUPPORT any Congressional action which makes available funding in the form of grants or loans to meet the growing demand on the Department's water and sewer systems. SUPPORT any Congressional action which would amend the manner in which State Revolving Funds are allocated to the States, to the extent the amendment would provide greater amounts of funding to the State of Florida.

**Water Infrastructure Network:** SUPPORT efforts by the Water Infrastructure Network (WIN) program to establish a long-term grant program for needed water and sewer infrastructure improvements, along with additional funding support of the revolving loan program.

# **HOMELAND SECURITY/ PUBLIC SAFETY**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Interoperability:** SUPPORT in the form of funding and/or equipment for the strengthening of interoperability among agencies in the state and at the local level. SUPPORT for Bill S.1725 to achieve emergency communications capabilities and interoperability. Miami-Dade County has one of the nation's largest radio communication systems with over 25,000 radio users and over 8 million transmissions monthly. Our goal of interoperability is to fully embrace common management systems and technology enabling communication to all agencies across local and regional agencies as incident needs dictate. Although, Miami-Dade County's interoperability preparedness is in an advanced state of readiness, it requires continued expansion due to increased threat and the geography of the area. Specific interoperable projects include:

- **Pilot Program:** SUPPORT the designation of Miami-Dade County as an emergency communications pilot project.
- **Interoperable Radio Communications:** SUPPORT funding to enhance the radio communication system to Project 25 compliance to enable first responders to roam into our radio communications system, in accordance with SAFECOM Homeland Security Interoperability Continuum goal.
- **9-1-1 Redundancy Equipment:** SUPPORT for a 9-1-1 redundancy system with microwave component to serve as an alternative location for housing 9-1-1 services should the existing site be damaged or destroyed due to natural or man-made disasters.
- **Communication Towers:** SUPPORT funding for repair and upgrade to existing communication towers and purchase of mobile radio trailers with towers to enhance our tower flexibility. The towers are critical to the effective transmission of calls to and from the 9-1-1 system. Upgrading these towers fall within the goals set forth by the Department of Homeland Security's Interoperability goals.
- **Interoperable Communications Vehicle:** SUPPORT funding for a communications vehicle, an extended cargo van equipped with radio/telephone linking equipment and a hydraulically actuated tower. This vehicle and equipment will provide for the ability to link numerous Federal, State, County and City radio/telephone systems during a unified command incident.

**Homeland Security National Complex:** SUPPORT efforts to secure the placement of a national DHS facility in Miami-Dade County. Our community is a credible target for terrorist activities and placing a national office in Miami-Dade County will greatly augment the significant investment already made by the DHS and ensure Florida's largest metropolitan area has the mobilization and deployment resources available to coordinate with federal and state officials in the event of a terrorist attack or other crisis.

**Airport EDS Baggage Integration:** SUPPORT efforts to secure \$20 million in federal funding for in-line explosive detection systems (EDS) at Miami International Airport. (See Aviation section on pg. 6 for full project description)

## **OTHER ISSUES**

### **Emergency Management**

**Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI):** SUPPORT increased funding for the Urban Areas Security Initiative in order to better prepare first responders at the local level for potential terrorist events.

### **Hazard Mitigation Funding:**

- SUPPORT legislation to increase funding for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM).
- SUPPORT legislation that requires the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to return to 15 percent (currently only 7.5 percent) of the aggregate cost of a particular disaster.
- SUPPORT legislation that requires the State to develop an enhanced mitigation plan so that Miami-Dade County would be eligible to receive 20 percent of the aggregate cost of a particular disaster. Miami-Dade County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) is an enhanced plan, but currently is not eligible to receive 20 percent because the State of Florida does not have an enhanced plan.

**State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP):** SUPPORT efforts to maintain or increase funding levels to the State of Florida through the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP).

**Miami-Dade Domestic Preparedness Strategy (DPS):** SUPPORT increased funding or availability of grant programs in order to implement County, municipal, and other agency projects listed in the Miami-Dade Domestic Preparedness Strategy (DPS). The Miami-Dade DPS serves as the roadmap for achieving a state of readiness against the threat of terrorism.

### **Fire Rescue**

**Marine Services Fire Rescue Vessel and Enhancement:** SUPPORT \$3.5 million for water based firefighting capabilities that would help prevent immediate delays and/or access to areas vulnerable to terrorist attacks. Currently there is limited access by land to cruise and cargo ships, which creates a delay in life saving capabilities at the largest cruise port in the southeast. Additionally, firefighting capabilities from water would allow Miami-Dade Fire Rescue to support the U.S. Coast Guard and to provide much needed mutual aid to other surrounding agencies at the Port of Miami, the Miami River, Biscayne Bay and local waterways under the jurisdiction of Miami-Dade Fire Rescue.

### **Police Department**

**Port Security Grant Program:** SUPPORT increased funding for the Port Security Grant Program in order to better secure the Port of Miami, the Port of Miami River and Miami International Airport, shielding them from potential terrorist events.

**Operation Safe Port:** SUPPORT \$900,000 request to further fund the Miami-Dade Police Department Underwater Recovery / Homeland Security Units to conduct hull searches on vessels entering the port to locate explosive devices attached to a ship's hull as well as any other potential threat to the safety of passengers and port workers at the Port of Miami. Contraband of any kind is also targeted for removal and confiscation by police divers who conduct searches at the request of the Coast Guard but are not reimbursed or paid with any federal funds. The Port of Miami contributes over \$12 billion annually to the economy of South Florida.

**Crime Lab Enhancements:** SUPPORT the maintenance and an increased level of funding for grant programs such as the DNA Backlog Grants and the Paul Coverdell Grants which have greatly assisted in the effectiveness of identifying and apprehending individuals who have committed the crime of Sexual Battery in Miami-Dade. The County leads the state in DNA hits, including 36 in 2003, 82 in 2004 and 36 as of today in 2005. Additional funding sources that enhance our Crime Laboratory capacity to analyze have allowed and could continue to allow the County to realize success.

## **Transit**

**Transit Security and Surveillance System:** SUPPORT \$5 million funding request to enhance and install security and surveillance systems in transit properties and vehicles. (See Transit section on pg. 23 for full project description)

## **Water and Sewer**

**Pilot Pump Stations Protection Program:** SUPPORT \$1.75 million funding request for a pilot program to protect the pump stations during significant weather events such as hurricanes and flash floods by deploying additional portable pumps to the Water and Sewer Department Divisions (WASD). (See Environmental Infrastructure & Water Resources section on pg. 10 for full project description)

**Wastewater Treatment Security Act:** SUPPORT increased funding to help the costs of assessments of vulnerability and costs associated with construction of security measures; as the disruption of wastewater treatment plants could have a devastating impact on public safety, health, and the environment.

## **Public Works**

**Assessment of Bridges for Structural Damage Blast Effect:** SUPPORT \$650,000 in funding to help determine the vulnerability of the Venetian Causeway, Rickenbacker Causeway and five bascule bridges over the Miami River from an explosion and potential terrorist event. This project will determine structural and nonstructural improvements that can be implemented to reduce the blast risk to the facility. When designing a bridge, only live (traffic and wind) and dead (weight of the structure) design loads are considered, calculations to determine what blast force these structures may withstand are not undertaken. Also, the quantity of explosive that is required to cause substantial damage needs to be known. Should an event occur that would decommission a bridge, access to the City of Miami Central Business District or Miami Beach and/or the Village of Key Biscayne would be restricted or no longer exist resulting in extraordinary efforts to restore the pre-existing level of service.

# **HOUSING**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Elderly Housing:** SUPPORT funding for affordable elderly housing in Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade County faces a shortfall of housing affordable to the ever growing population of seniors. The elderly, as a class, face forms of distress other than medical or financial, such as the need for suitable housing and an overall environment conducive to dignity and independence.

**Workforce Development Housing:** SUPPORT seeking funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to pursue innovative housing programs that promote the construction and development of workforce housing for Miami-Dade County residents who are do not qualify for low income housing but are increasing unable to afford housing due to double digit growth in the cost of housing locally. Affordable workforce housing is an issue of concern with both the Administration and our Congressional Delegation, and Miami-Dade County could be a viable place for a pilot program that can be replicated nationwide.

**Section 8 Vouchers and Funding for Public Housing:** SUPPORT changing the Section 8 voucher program to allow Miami-Dade County to better access and utilize critical federal dollars. SUPPORT increases in funding for Public Housing. Reductions in funding could result in approximately \$3.3 million deficit in Miami-Dade County's public housing operating budget. URGE Congress to fully fund the public housing program to meet the needs of all existing and future clients.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Housing Opportunities for Persons Living With AIDS (HOPWA)** – SUPPORT efforts in Congress to fund HOPWA at \$385 million in FY07. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 800,000 to 900,000 persons are living in the United States with a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS. Further, it is estimated that 22,000 people in Miami-Dade County are living with the disease. These individuals, many which are poor, will be directly impacted by any budget cuts, and could face homelessness without the assistance of HOPWA or some other form of housing assistance.

**Utility Allowance Schedule for Public Housing:** ADVOCATE changes in regulations to include the application of air conditioning to Public Housing utility allowance schedule. Currently, tenants living in a public housing project are not given a utility allowance to cover air conditioning even though tenants in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program are given a utility allowance for air conditioning.

# **HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND COMMUNITY ISSUES**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

### **Health**

**Ryan White AIDS Funding:** SUPPORT increased funding for the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Relief Grant Program. There is an increased need for HIV/AIDS services, nationally and locally, primarily due to higher rates of HIV infection among indigent populations and longer life spans among people living with AIDS.

**Pandemic Avian Flu - Secure National Stockpile Medications:** SUPPORT increased funding to Florida State Health Department agencies to deal with issues related to the stockpile of medications and threats such as a pandemic flu.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

### **Human Services**

**Childcare/School Readiness Programs:** SUPPORT increased funding through congressional legislative avenues. This funding increase would improve school readiness services and possibly reduce dependency on economic sufficiency programs. Currently Miami-Dade County does not receive direct funding through the federal government; but as a pass through from the State of Florida. However advocating for maintenance of effort or enhancement to existing subsidized childcare/school readiness programs will only benefit Miami-Dade County.

**Violence Against Women Act:** ADVOCATE for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and fully fund all of its provisions. The need for legislation that create programs and funding mechanisms that address domestic and sexual violence is paramount to the safety and general welfare of abused women. This important piece of legislation improved the criminal justice system's response to violence by training police and prosecutors to respond more effectively as well as added services for immigrant, rural, disabled, and older women.

### **Juvenile Services**

**Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) National Demonstration Project:** SUPPORT \$1.9 million request for the continuation of funding for JAC National Demonstration Project.

**Local Law Enforcement Block Grant and Byrne Grant:** SUPPORT increase or maintenance (these funding sources have been decreasing) of these recurring federal formula grants that come to communities: Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) and the Byrne Grant.

**Family Justice Center Initiative (FJC):** SUPPORT funding for the development and creation of a Family Justice Center in Miami-Dade County. A FJC in Miami-Dade County will provide the much needed community planning, assessment and development activities to the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in one location saving time and money for both victims and the staff of the various entities that serve this population. ADVOCATE for the creation of Family Justice Centers in the US Department of Justice – Office of Violence against Women. This will allow 12-13 communities to establish model Family Justice Centers to assist the victims of Domestic Violence and sexual assault.



**Public Policy**

**National Holiday:** URGE the United States Congress to declare October 24<sup>th</sup> a national holiday in honor of Rosa Parks.

# **HURRICANE RECOVERY AND MITIGATION**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**100% FEMA Reimbursement:** SUPPORT efforts to have county expenses that are FEMA reimbursable to be federally funded at 100%. In the past, FEMA's greatest single disaster expenses has been to reimburse state and local governments for their losses and emergency costs, as it is the local government's emergency response and recovery efforts that help save lives and get residents and business back on their feet as soon as possible. The law requires that FEMA pay 75 percent, with local governments covering the remainder. However, FEMA does have the discretion to cover 100% of the cost, which it did with Hurricane Andrew and most recently with reimbursement for New York after the tragic events of 9-11.

**Mitigation Funding:** SUPPORT increase in funding for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program. Last year, the President's budget included significant cuts to the pre-disaster mitigation program. Miami-Dade County has successfully used these funds to prepare for storm and prevent severe damage, from retrofitting buildings to providing hurricane shutters to low income residents. Our commitment to mitigation makes Miami-Dade County a national model in preparedness, and these funds are critical in protecting lives and critical infrastructure during and after natural disasters. SUPPORT efforts to secure additional generators, solar powered traffic signals, and warehouses for staging and storing emergency supplies.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Hurricane Shutters:** SUPPORT increased funding for federally funded hurricane shutter program for the elderly and economically disadvantaged residing in condominiums, townhouses and apartments.

# **IMMIGRATION**

**Comprehensive Immigration Reform:** SUPPORT S 1033/H.R. 2330, the Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act that would allow undocumented aliens to stay in the country, apply for a new H-5B work visa and possibly earn permanent legal status eventually after living in the US for 6 years and paying a \$2,000 fee. This bill was co-sponsored by three Members of the Miami-Dade County Congressional Delegation, Mario Diaz-Balart, Lincoln Diaz-Balart, and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen.

**Genocide Eradication in Dafar, Africa:** URGE US Government to assert leadership and convince members of the UN Security Council that genocide in Dafar requires immediate international attention. The United States government acknowledged on September 9, 2004, the Genocide has been committed in Dafur, and the government of Sudan and the Janjawid bear responsibility and that this act of horrific genocide must be eradicated.

**Haitian Immigration:** PROMOTE fair and equal treatment for detained Haitian refugees. Haitian refugees are detained at a higher number than any other refugees arriving in the US seeking refuge. SUPPORT all legislative efforts that would rescind discriminatory immigration policies against Haitians and call for equal treatment of all immigrants.

**Haitian Refugee Immigration Act (HRIFA) Fix-It bill:** SUPPORT passage of the Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act (HRIFA) fix-it bill. HRIFA Improvement Act of 2005 - Amends the Haitian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act of 1998 to: (1) include document fraud among the grounds of inadmissibility which shall not preclude an otherwise qualifying Haitian alien from permanent resident status adjustment; and (2) provide that determinations with respect to children shall be made using the age of an individual as of the date of enactment of this Act. The new bill permits new status adjustment applications to be filed for a limited time period and directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish procedures for reopening status adjustment applications based upon the amendments made by this Act.

**Haiti Economic Recovery Act:** SUPPORT the Haiti Economic Recovery Act to promote increased trade in Haiti. This legislation amends the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act to allow specified apparel articles that are imported directly into the customs territory of the United States from Haiti to enter free of duty if Haiti has satisfied the requirements of this Act.

**Temporary Protective Status:** SUPPORT Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for immigrants/asylum seekers who are in Miami-Dade County and face deportation. TPS was established to provide temporary protection to immigrants/asylum seekers that are unable to return to their homelands because of serious ongoing-armed conflict or political unrest, or natural disasters.

## **INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

**Free Trade and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA):** SUPPORT efforts to permanently locate the Permanent Secretariat of the FTAA in Miami-Dade County. MONITOR trade legislation impacting South Florida.

**International Trade Facilitation Center:** SUPPORT \$300,000 request for the expansion of service of the ITC's newly created International Trade Facilitation Center (Business Incubator Program) increased funding would bolster South Florida's economy and would continue to positively impact the nation's trade balance.

# **PARKS, LIBRARIES AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Ludlum Trail:** SUPPORT \$4 million funding request for the acquisition and construction of the Ludlum Trail. This trail is a proposed seven mile bicycle pedestrian trail along the FEC Railroad corridor, between SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and SW 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue from State Road 5/US1/SW Dixie Highway to NW 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The FEC railway corridor is one of the last remaining open space corridors in the County. This project will create a trail for bicyclists and walkers. It will be used for transportation and recreation purposes.

**Performing Arts Center (PAC):** SUPPORT \$900,000 funding request to acquire property adjacent to the new Performing Arts Center and to implement plans for neighborhood economic and social revitalization, which may include a Park and Ride Facility.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Parks Open Space Master Plan:** SUPPORT \$500,000 request to develop an Open Space Master Plan to guide future park development. It will survey all open space that can provide passive and active recreational opportunities, including Federal/State and local government owned parks, public schools, environmentally endangered areas, utility right of ways and easements.

**Parks Recreational After-School Programming:** SUPPORT working with federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and National Institute of Health (NIH) for possible programmatic funding of our parks programs that promote healthier children and assist in the reduction of obesity among American youth, an issue of concern in both the Administration and Congress.

**Transportation Enhancement Programs:** SUPPORT efforts for continued funding of the Transportation Enhancement Programs. Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation Department has received numerous grants through this program which has funded such projects as the Greenway Signage and Demonstration Project, three greenway bridges, South Dade Greenways Network, and Black Creek and Biscayne Trails.

**Libraries:** ADVOCATE for federal funding to libraries through the State of Florida be increased or maintained at current levels. Most funding to libraries is issued through formula based grants.

# **PORT OF MIAMI**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Unfunded Security Mandates:** SUPPORT efforts to assure that the federal government funds all federal seaport security mandates without impacting traditional seaport funding sources for capacity and other critical projects. Additional funding is required to maintain the present and future heightened security levels that will be required to assure that passengers and cargo are efficiently processed and to assist with the landside and waterside security requirements currently demanded of ports. SUPPORT funding increases to budgets of federal agencies with operations at the Port of Miami; primarily for more officers to provide passenger safety and assist in expeditiously and efficiently processing of passengers and cargo.

**Miami Harbor Channel Dredging:** SUPPORT efforts to secure \$7 million in appropriations and/or reprogrammed funds within the FY 07 Energy and Water Development appropriations bill, to include outstanding needs for Phase II dredging, Planning, Engineering and Design funds for Phase III dredging, and additional dredging needs subsequently identified by the US Army Corps of Engineers. SUPPORT authorization for 50-52 ft. dredging project, in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). SUPPORT revision in WRDA that would clearly authorize federal cost sharing in mitigation associated with Phase II contractor impacts to natural resources within the Federal Harbor Project. Ensure that language is adequate to support a reimbursement request by Miami-Dade County for the federal share of costs incurred in constructing a portion of useable increments. SUPPORT appropriation request for mitigation reimbursement involving contractor violation during Miami Harbor Channel Dredging – 42-ft and 36-ft projects. SUPPORT WRDA language which provides an exemption to the Port of Miami from the recent Army Corps directive which increases the local share for GRR's to 50%.

**Intermodal Capability:** ADVOCATE for legislation that would fund improvements of Intermodal capabilities and capacity of the Seaport to highway connectivity corridors, to include a tunnel or other viable means to ease congestion at the Port of Miami.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Cruise Ships:** SUPPORT legislation to amend the Passenger Vessel Services Act of 1886 and permit, under specific and limited circumstances, the operation of foreign built cruise vessels already operating in other markets to operate in the U.S. domestic cruise trades.

**Harbor Maintenance Tax:** SUPPORT and Monitor legislation that would repeal the Harbor Maintenance Tax and authorize general revenues to pay for the federal cost of operating and maintaining the nation's harbors. Oppose any user fee which may be proposed as an alternative to the current financing mechanism. Such fee imposed would greatly impact the already overburdened industry.

**Water Resources Development Act:** SUPPORT language in legislation for port industry-identified refinements to the Act. These changes will have direct benefits for the industry and for the Miami-Dade County Seaport Department by increasing federal responsibility and cost-sharing in a number of areas.

**Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA):** MONITOR legislation that would change or create regulations that would impact security operations at the Port of Miami through the MTSA. SUPPORT increased funding for mandates created by this Act to assist Ports in complying with new regulations.

# **PUBLIC WORKS AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITY**

**Mosquito Control Plane:** Support effort to secure \$1 million for the acquisition of a fixed wing airplane for aerial spraying to control mosquitoes. Aerial spraying is the only effective method for providing effective control of mosquitoes over large geographic areas. A fixed wing airplane will allow the County increased capability for in-house aerial spraying with less reliance on contractors. Miami-Dade County's proximity to the Everglades and other natural mosquito breeding areas allows for the production of millions of mosquitoes, some of which are responsible for the transmission of diseases such as West Nile Virus and St. Louis Encephalitis.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Energy Market Restructuring:** SUPPORT any legislation addressing Utility Deregulation that would preserve existing contracts entered into under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) of 1978 as well as the existing requirement that utilities purchase power from alternative or renewable sources. ADVOCATE for the expansion of the term renewable energy to include electricity generated from municipal solid waste.

**Market Incentives for Electricity Produced from Renewable Resources:** ADVOCATE for legislation designating biomass (both Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) incineration and methane gas recovery) as a "qualified energy resource", eligible for any and all market incentives including but not limited to 1) establishment of a renewable portfolio standard (RPS), 2) establishment of a renewable energy tradable credits program, 3) expansion of the existing Section 45 tax credits to include biomass and to provide that public sector entities share in a like benefit through creation of a refundable production and investment tax credit, 4) participation in "green pricing" program or other similar incentives. Such incentive provisions will aid in providing for financial stability of local governments' solid waste management programs. This in turn will provide greater flexibility to local governments in delivering a higher level of service to the community, adding environmental enhancement initiatives, reducing fees or a combination thereof.

**Consumer Services:** OPPOSE the Broadband Investment and Consumer Choice Act of 2005 (S.1504) and the Video Choice Act of 2005 (S.1349 and HR 3146). This legislation abolishes local cable television franchising; eliminates capital funding from cable television providers for local channels such as Miami-Dade Television; eliminates local customer service standards and redress for consumers; and further restricts local authority over regulations pertaining to cell phone towers.

**Flow Control/Interstate Waste Transport:** SUPPORT legislation restoring state/local authority over receipt of waste from outside the jurisdiction or region and, in parallel, flow control authority over locally generated waste.

**Power Plant Emission Reductions:** ADVOCATE for equitable treatment for Waste-to-Energy Facilities as it relates to the provision of any anticipated air pollution reduction legislation requiring that "power generating" facilities achieve certain reductions in air pollutants. An equity provision is sought due to the fact that previous emission reduction proposals constituted a redundant requirement, given WTE facilities have already complied with comparable provisions of the Clean Air Act.

**General Service Administration Federal Contracts:** ADVOCATE for federal regulations/legislation be proposed to allow local jurisdictions access to United States General Services Administration (GSA) federal contracts. Non-federal agencies, including Miami-Dade County, are precluded from accessing federal contracts (with few exceptions).

# **TRANSIT**

## **CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Metrorail Orange Line Expansion - North and East-West Corridors:** SUPPORT \$20 million funding request to be used for preliminary engineering on the Miami-Dade County East-West Corridor Rapid Transit Project. SUPPORT \$20 million funding request to be used for final design on the Miami-Dade North Corridor Rapid Transit Project.

**South Florida Regional Integrated Fare Collection System:** SUPPORT \$35 million funding request for a regional integrated fare collection system. Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, and Broward Counties, under the lead of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) have agreed to procure a common fare collection system that will make regional travel seamless, cost effective and convenient. An integrated system will ensure compatibility of fare equipment and technology, standardize fare media price and policies, and reduce travel barriers.

**Bus Procurement:** SUPPORT \$6 million funding request of discretionary Federal Bus and Bus-Related funds to enhance current levels of service to meet growing transportation demand, increasing bus routes and improving service frequencies. The purchase of additional buses will have an important collective impact on Miami-Dade County's ability to decrease congestion and promote intermodal linkages for passengers throughout the South Florida region.

**7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Transit Hub:** SUPPORT \$2 million funding request to construct a transit hub at the intersection of NW 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Street which will provide access for commuters to and from the Liberty City area as well as a focal point for economic development. This project will enable the County to develop a mixed-use activity center to meet the transit needs of the community and provide connectivity between Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, serving several municipalities.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**Metrorail Vehicles Mid-Life Rehabilitation:** SUPPORT \$30 million funding request for the comprehensive mid-life rehabilitation of Miami-Dade County's Metrorail fleet. The current Metrorail fleet of 136 vehicles was placed in service in 1984. The rehabilitation will include the upgrade of all 13 sub-systems and decrease maintenance and overall rail car failure rate. The rehabilitation is imperative to improve fleet reliability.

**Transit Security and Surveillance System:** SUPPORT \$5 million funding request to enhance and install security and surveillance systems in transit properties and vehicles. The enhancements include: installation of real-time surveillance and recording system; throughout transit operations and maintenance facilities, rail/mover and fleet and rail/mover and bus stations, razor wire and security sensor fencing on the perimeter of facilities, access gate identification cards and coded proximity cards to secure access to critical areas and explosive resistant containers.

**US-1 Pedestrian Overpasses:** SUPPORT \$8 million funding request for the construction of four additional overpasses over US-1 in the areas of 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South Miami, University and Dadeland South Metrorail Stations. The project will enhance safe access to Metrorail stations and other transit related facilities.

**Performing Arts Center (PAC) Park & Ride Facility:** SUPPORT efforts to secure federal funds for the construction of a Park & Ride Facility adjacent to the Miami-Dade County Performing Arts Center. The project will enhance public access to the signature Performing Arts Center and will augment the transit department's efforts to provide public Park & Ride facilities adjacent to existing transit facilities such as the existing Omni and School Board Metromover stations near the PAC.



# **APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR – 2007 (OCT. 2006-SEPT. 2007)**

(Listed in order of corresponding Congressional funding bill)

*NOTE \* Asterisk reflects Critical Priority identified on p. 1*

*\*\* Asterisk reflects funding request from dual accounts*

## **AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES**

### **Agriculture Manager**

\*Agriculture Disaster Assistance (amount requested through emergency supplemental bill)

### **Public Works**

\*Mosquito Control Airplane \$1 million

## **COMMERCE, JUSTICE AND SCIENCE**

Florida Area Costal Environment (FACE) Initiative \$6 million  
Juvenile Assessment Center's (JAC) National Demonstration Project \$1.9 million

## **ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT**

### **Department of Environmental Resource Management (DERM)**

\*Miami River Dredging \$24.2 million  
\*Beach Erosion Control \$5.2 million  
Biscayne Bay Water Quality Assessment Model \$500,000

### **Port of Miami**

\*Miami Harbor Channel Dredging Project \$7 million

## **HOMELAND SECURITY**

### **Aviation**

\*Airport EDS Baggage Integration \$20 million  
(total cost approx. \$183.7 million)

### **Fire Rescue**

Marine Services Fire Rescue Vessel and Enhancement \$3.5 million

### **Police Department**

Operation Safe Port \$900,000

### **Public Works**

Assessment of Bridges for Structural Damage Blast Effect \$650,000

### **Transit**

\*\*Transit Security and Surveillance System \$5 million

### **Water & Sewer**

Pilot Pump Stations Protection Program \$1.75 million

## **INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES**

**Parks and Recreation**

Parks Open Space Master Plan

\$500,000

**LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES****Community Action Agency**

Head Start/Early Head Start Facilities

\$7.75 million

**TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, JUDICIARY AND HUD****Empowerment Trust**

Empowerment Zone Funding

\$10 million

**International Trade Consortium**

International Trade Business Incubator Program

\$300,000

**Parks and Recreation**

\*Ludlum Trail

\$4 million

**Performing Art Center**

Performing Arts Center (PAC)

\$900,000

**Transit**

\*Metrorail Orange Line Expansion - North &amp; East/West Corridors

\$40 million (\$20m per corridor)

\*South Florida Regional Integrated Fare Collection System

\$35 million

\*Bus Procurement

\$6 million

\*7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Transit Hub

\$2 million

Metrorail Vehicles Mid-Life Rehabilitation

\$30 million

\*\*Transit Security and Surveillance System

\$5 million

US-1 Pedestrian Overpasses

\$8 million